



DELTA COUNTY, COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Bonnie H. Koehler
Health Officer

William C. Lemoine
Director

January 27, 2015

The Honorable Don Coram
Colorado House of Representatives
200 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Honorable Representative Coram:

On behalf of Delta County Department of Health & Human Services, I am writing in support of House Bill 15-1079, Expanding the Medicaid Teen Pregnancy and Dropout Prevention Program, which would allow statewide expansion of the program. The program uses a community and person-centered approach to teen pregnancy prevention, using highly-ranked, evidence-based, and age-appropriate counseling programs to assist Medicaid eligible at-risk teens in making responsible, reproductive health choices. The program is 90 percent federally funded and the bill will allow communities to participate in the program while reducing the burden on local community resources.

Delta County has been a part of the pilot program and has worked for many years with the Hilltop organization (based out of Mesa County and also staffed from Montrose County). They have been instrumental in working with an at-risk population through one of our group homes and the results have been very impressive – nearly 200 clients seen, only one pregnancy! We feel certain that an expansion of this program to make it available to other counties in Colorado would go a long way to reducing unintended pregnancies in teen populations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (970) 874-2052. Thank you again for your efforts on this important issue.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William C. Lemoine".

William C. Lemoine
Director

cc:

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